

THE CENTURION

DELAWARE COMMISSION OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Robbins Bldg – 802 Silver Lake Blvd, Suite 100, Dover, Delaware 19904

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Internet Website: <http://www.state.de.us/veteran>

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Ruth Ann Minner, Governor

Dr. Harriet Smith Windsor, Secretary of State

Gary “Mo” Morris, Chairman

Antonio Davila, Executive Director

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CHAIRMAN’S UPDATE

My Fellow Veterans,

I greet you for the first time as Chairman of the Commission, being elected at the last meeting held on September 27, 2005. I am most honored to serve in this capacity following many dedicated previous members of the Commission. Our immediate past Chairman Jim Thompson has held many positions and will be a valuable asset to draw upon when seeking additional advice. We must all stand up and thank Jim for his unswerving drive and dedication. I take the helm at a critical time as the Commission works diligently towards the opening of our State Veterans Home. There will be many meetings to attend in order to ensure that the Veterans Home opens on time. We are targeting a dedication ceremony that will be conducted on December 7, 2006, (Delaware Day and Pearl Harbor Day) that will recognize all Delaware veterans for their service to our great State and nation. What better day for us to gather and pay tribute to those who have treaded the paths of war before us. As we get closer, we will be sure to keep all veterans organizations advised of the progress. As Chairman for this coming year, I plan to review and consider veterans’ programs and legislation currently offered at State levels throughout the country. As evidenced by the bipartisan display of unity in establishing Delaware’s first Veterans Home, the State of Delaware continues to recognize the contributions of all veterans and acknowledges our support and activities conducted from the heart to benefit everyone. In closing, I once again thank Jim Thompson for his leadership and look forward to working with all veterans throughout the coming year.

Gary “Mo” Morris
Chairman

THOUGHT FOR THE QUARTER

"When you take responsibility on your shoulders there is not much room left for chips."

VETERANS DAY SERVICES

The Delaware Commission of Veterans Affairs and Military Order of the World Wars will host Veterans Day Services on **Friday, November 11, 2005**. The service will be at the Memorial Bridge Plaza, Delaware Memorial Bridge, New Castle, Delaware, and will begin at 10:30 AM. Following the service, a luncheon will be held at the Holiday Inn-Wilmington/Newark, 1203 Christiana Road, Newark, DE. For luncheon tickets or further information call 1-800-344-9900 or (302) 739-2792.

WORLD WAR II STORY TELLING

In honor of Veterans Day, White Clay Creek State Park will host two events titled *An Afternoon of World War II Story Telling*. The dates for the events are Saturday, November 12th and Sunday, November 13th. Both story telling afternoons will take place at the Judge Morris Estate from 1:00 to 4:00 pm. We are looking for presenters to share stories about their WWII experiences. Were you in the armed services, over-seas, or working on the home front to support the war effort? Or were you managing a home and family, or going to school? We are interested in stories of these life events and more! If you would like to participate in this memorable event, please contact by e-mail (Kathleen.aviles@state.de.us) or phone (302) 368-6560. Each story teller will receive two free tickets to the event. All stories will have to be reviewed prior to inclusion in the program. The Judge Morris Estate is located on Polly Drummond Hill Road, ¼ mile north of Kirkwood Highway.

EXTREME SPORTS GROUP FORMING

Attention athletes, local club forming for current and former military personnel who are interested in skydiving, scuba diving and rock climbing. If interested, please contact Joe Winnington at 302-379-5426 or e-mail: jwinnington@pumh.org.

VA ANNOUNCES NEW SURVIVOR BENEFITS WEB SITE

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) has created a new Internet Web site for the surviving spouses and dependents of military personnel who died on active duty and for the survivors and dependents of veterans who died after leaving the military. "One of VA's basic missions is to care for the survivors of veterans and military members," said the Honorable R. James Nicholson, Secretary of Veterans Affairs. "By harnessing the power of the Internet, we can provide them with the latest information about benefits in a clear, readable format." The web site is organized into two broad categories - death in service and death after service. It provides visitors with information about a wide range of benefits for the surviving spouse, dependent children, and dependent parents of deceased veterans and active-duty personnel. The site also has information from – and links to – other federal agencies and organizations that offer benefits and services to survivors and dependents. The new website can be found at www.vba.va.gov/survivors or by clicking the "Survivors Benefits" button on the left panel of www.vba.va.gov.

THE WORLD WAR II VETERANS COMMITTEE'S EIGHTH ANNUAL CONFERENCE

*American's Greatest Living WWII Veterans to
Gather in Washington Veterans Day Weekend*

This Veterans Day weekend, some of America's greatest military heroes will gather in Washington in a weekend devoted to honoring the bravery and sacrifices of the Greatest Generation. From November 10-12, 2005, the World War II Veterans Committee will celebrate the 60th Anniversary of the end of the war by holding its Eighth Annual Conference, welcoming veterans from around the country. The Committee's Eighth Annual Conference will feature three days of speakers and

panels covering a wide variety of battles and topics relating to the Second World War. Scheduled to appear are:

Brig. Gen. Paul W. Tibbets and Major Theodore “Dutch” Van Kirk, the pilot and navigator of the Enola Gay, the B-29 that delivered the first atomic bomb against Hiroshima.

Jack Valenti, decorated bomber pilot in the 12th Air Force and former CEO of the Motion Picture Association of America.

Bob Feller, baseball Hall of Famer and veteran of the USS Alabama in both the Atlantic and Pacific theaters.

Ambassador John Dolibois, former U.S. Ambassador to Luxembourg and last surviving interrogator of the top Nazis prior to their trial at Nuremberg.

Gen. David Lee “Tex” Hill, Maj. Gen. John Alison, and Col. Don Lopez, ace pilots in the legendary Flying Tigers.

Hon. Celia Sandys, noted author and granddaughter of Sir Winston Churchill.

Donald Burgett, veteran of the 101st Airborne and author of *Currahee!*, the only book on World War II personally endorsed by General Dwight D. Eisenhower.

Guy Gabaldon, subject of the 1960 film *Hell to Eternity*, which chronicled his exploits in commanding the surrender of 1,500 Japanese on the island of Saipan.

PLUS: Eight veterans of the famed Band of Brothers, speakers from Merrill’s Marauders; Mars Task Force, and OSS Detachment 101; veterans of D-Day, Iwo Jima, the Battle of the Bulge, Okinawa, and the capture of the Remagen Bridge; experts on Adolf Hitler and Franklin D. Roosevelt; and survivors of the Holocaust and the brutal Japanese POW camps. In addition to three days of speaker panels, the Eighth Annual Conference will feature wreath laying ceremonies at the National World War II Memorial and the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier at Arlington National Cemetery, a Choral Evensong in honor of World War II veterans at the historic Church of the Epiphany, and a reception at the Army & Navy Club in downtown Washington. The conference will be capped off by the Edward J. Herlihy Awards Banquet, a gala black-tie affair

honoring our heroes of World War II, followed by a 1940s-era swing band dance with a full 21-piece orchestra. As this is the 60th Anniversary of the Allied victory in World War II, this year’s conference should provide to be a special event. Conference registrations are open to all who wish to attend, whether they be one who served or an admirer of our World War II veterans. For more information visit www.wwiivets.com.

PERMANENT ID CARDS FOR ELIGIBLE FAMILY MEMBERS 75 OR OLDER

A permanent Uniformed Services Identification (ID) card should (have been) available beginning in September for all eligible family members and survivors of retirees, who are age 75 or older. Previously, retirees had been the only persons who received a permanent ID card. Beneficiaries with a valid ID card should obtain the new permanent ID card within 90 days of their card’s expiration. If beneficiaries’ cards are not due to expire for at least another year, they **do not** need to apply for the new ID card until their existing card is within 90 days of expiring. Even though retired service members are automatically registered in the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System (DEERS), their family members are not. It is the sponsors’ responsibility to register their family members in DEERS. Sponsors must also make any necessary updates in DEERS for themselves and their family members such as changes to the sponsor’s status, home address and family status (marriage, divorce, birth and adoption). Surviving family members must update their personal information in DEERS when the retired sponsor dies. The DEERS Support Office can be reached at 1-800-538-9552. For information, go to <http://www.tricare.osd.mil/deers> or call the TRI-CARE Regional Office (TRO) North (1-877-874-2273), or TRO West (1-888-874-9378). Overseas beneficiaries can call 1-888-777-8343. Beneficiaries can also find the nearest ID card issuing facility at <http://www.dmdc.osd.mil/rs/owa/home>. (*Army Echoes*, Sep-Dec 2005)

AER OFFERS COLLEGE FINANCIAL AID

Even with the cost of undergraduate education at an all time high, you still can't make a better investment for your children's future. Therefore, it's important not to bypass an opportunity for financial aid. Army Emergency Relief (AER) offers financial assistance for full-time post secondary study for dependent children of Army retirees. Scholarships are awarded based primarily on financial need, secondarily on academic achievements and individual accomplishments. The only way to ensure your child will be considered for this scholarship is to **mail all requested documents by the established post-mark deadlines.** The MG James Ursano Scholarship Fund administered by AER is for students who study at an undergraduate, technical or vocational institution accredited by the U.S. Department of Education or for first year expenses incurred by cadets at the service academies. This includes students who are contemplating enrollment for the next academic year (AY) as continuing undergraduate or vocational students, starting after a break from school, or those who are planning to pursue post secondary studies after high school graduation in 2006. In the 2005-2006 AY, 95% of all students with complete applications were awarded scholarships funds. Assistance to 1,443 children of retirees accounted for \$2,484,699 in scholarships ranging from \$1,000 to \$2,200 for financial aid plus various amounts for academics and leadership. Awards are provided annually for up to four years of undergraduate study. *Unfortunately, this year about 695 children of retirees missed the deadlines or did not include all the required documents and were not considered for assistance.* A student applying for the 2006-2007 AY may not reach his/her 23rd birthday before June 1, 2007. the applicant must be an unmarried dependent child of an active duty or retired Soldier or a Soldier who died while in either status. All Soldiers and students must be registered in the Defense Eligibility Enrollment Reporting System (DEERS). You can verify the student's status with DEERS at 1-800-538-9552. Applications for the AER scholarship program, 2006-2007 AY, are available by mail from AER HQ between November 1, 2005 and February 21, 2006. To obtain an application by

mail, send your request **after November 1** to ARMY EMERGENCY RELIEF, MG James Ursano Scholarship Fund (RTD), 200 Stovall St. Alexandria, VA 22332-0600. The application is available in hardcopy from the Web site or students may apply online at <http://www.aerhq.org>, from November 1 to March 1, 2006. Mailed applications and/or supporting documentation **must be postmarked not later than March 1, 2006** for the 2006-2007 AY. Other important deadlines are outlined in the scholarship instructions. Applications and supporting documentation are **not** accepted by FAX or E-mail. Letters mailed the first full week of June 2006 will notify on-time applicants about scholarship awards. Scholarship funds are to be used for education costs including tuition, books and fees, or room and board while attending fulltime at the school accepting the funds. Students must reapply each year and be in good academic standing. A GPA of 2.0 on 4.0 scale minimum is required. The list of Web sites with college information and financial aid resources is at http://www.aerhq.org/education_collegelinks.asp. (Army Echoes, Sep-Dec 2005)

SENATE VOTES TO AWARD CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL TO THE TUSKEGEE AIRMEN

In 1941, several months before the Japanese attacked the United States at Pearl Harbor, the U.S. Army Air Force began a program to train black Americans as military pilots near Tuskegee, Alabama. The United States Senate unanimously passed legislation (S.392) authorizing President Bush to award the Congressional Gold Medal to the Tuskegee Airmen in honor of their unique military record. As an escort fighter wing during World War II, they never lost a bomber to enemy fighters. "This is a much deserved award and I am happy for those who will receive this important recognition on behalf of a grateful nation. The successes of the Tuskegee Airmen helped win the war and helped breakdown racial stereotypes," said Sen. Larry Craig, Chairman of the U.S. Senate Committee on Veterans Affairs. "I commend Sen. Carl Levin (D-MI) for introducing this legislation." German

pilots, who both feared and respected them, called the Tuskegee Airmen the "Schwartz Vogelmenshen" (Black Birdmen). White American bomber crews referred to them as "Redtailed Angels" because of the bright red painted on the tail assemblies and because of their reputation for not losing bombers to enemy fighters. During World War II, Tuskegee Airmen were credited with destroying 261 aircraft, damaging 148 aircraft, flying 15,553 combat sorties and 1,578 missions over Italy and North Africa. They destroyed or damaged over 950 units of ground transportation and escorted more than 200 bombing missions. The award the Airmen may receive will be unique since each Congressional Gold Medal of Honor is created by the United States Mint for each specific recipient, or group of recipients, so there is no standard design. The award is a completely separate decoration from the Medal of Honor, which is the rarest recognition the nation bestows for extreme bravery in combat. The Continental Congress first authorized the commissioning of Congressional Gold Medals during the Revolutionary War, and the first recipient was General George Washington. Over the past two centuries, Congress has presented the award to those who participated in other wars and who otherwise contributed to society. Recipients include Ulysses S. Grant, John Wayne, Bob Hope, Pope John Paul II, Winston Churchill, and the Navajo Code Talkers of World War II. If the Senate's vote is ratified by the House of Representatives, the Tuskegee Airmen, with nearly 1,000 members, will be the largest group to ever receive the award. (*Senate Committee on Veterans Affairs, Oct 2005*)

DISTINGUISHED MARINE STAMPS

The US Postal Service is going to release the Distinguished Marine Stamp on the Marine Corps Birthday, 10 November. The stamp is a way to show that the Marine Corps honors its heroes. The Distinguished Marine Stamp honors four Marines. They are: Gunnery Sergeant John Basilone, Sergeant Major Daniel J. Daly, Lieutenant General John A. Lejeune and Lieutenant General Lewis B. (Chesty) Puller. Gunnery Sergeant John Basilone,

also known as "Manila John", fought on Guadalcanal with the 1st Marine Division in 1942 and was awarded the Medal of Honor for his heroism. Sergeant Major Dan Daly is one of only two Marines in history to receive the Nations highest military award – the Medal of Honor – twice for separate acts of heroism. Lieutenant General Lejeune was the first Marine to command an Army Division and later become Commandant of the Marine Corps. Lewis B. Puller known affectionately by all his Marines as "Chesty" was a battalion commander and regimental commander with the 1st Marine Division during World War II and the Korean War, rising to the grade of Lieutenant General in recognition of his service. Each of the stamps feature a picture to the respective hero and the military insignia of the military unit he was most identified with. The stamps will be available from the U.S. Post Office on November 10th.

VA & ABC RADIO NETWORKS PARTNER ON OUTREACH TO VETERANS

Officials of the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) and ABC Radio Networks announced a partnership designed to enhance VA's outreach to America's nearly 25 million veterans through a public service campaign, a special global broadcast saluting veterans and participation of key VA events. Under the relationship, ABC Radio Networks and *American Country Countdown with Bob Kingsley* will air a series of public service announcements detailing benefits available to veterans. In addition, on November 11, 2005, "Bob Kingsley Salutes America's Veterans" will be broadcast on the ABC Radio Networks. The program will feature interviews with and historical pieces narrated by some of country music's biggest names, including Faith Hill, Toby Keith, Trace Adkins, Brooks & Dunn and Trisha Yearwood, among many others. It also includes information on veterans' benefits, and interview segments with the Honorable R. James Nicholson, Secretary of Veterans Affairs. "As part of VA's 75th Anniversary, we are taking our message to the airwaves," said Nicholson. "Radio plays a key role

in our outreach to veterans, and I'm delighted that ABC Radio Networks and Bob Kingsley, our honorary chairman for this campaign, have joined forces with VA in our efforts to better inform veterans of their entitlements." Nicholson also announced that Kingsley will play a key role in the Department's Veterans Day observance in November. "I am pleased that Bob Kinsley will serve as Master of Ceremonies for the 2005 Veterans Day commemoration at Arlington National Cemetery on November 11, 2005." "ABC Radio Networks is proud to support the Department of Veterans Affairs in its ongoing effort to support the men and women of our armed forces," said John McConnell, Senior Vice President of Programming, ABC Radio Networks. "We are committed to serving America's veterans through this program with VA." "Having served as a broadcaster in the U.S. Air Force with American Forces Radio, it is my privilege to be working with VA and ABC Radio Networks as part of this program," said Bob Kingsley, host and producer of *American Country Countdown*. "Country music is one of the most effective ways to reach our veterans and service men and women. I am honored to be part of VA's efforts to get the word out to veterans." The agreement announced by Nicholson and ABC Radio representatives enables VA to work with private industry, in addition to its other outreach activities, to inform veterans of the entitlements they have earned as mandated by Congress. As part of the campaign, VA has also created The Secretary's Award for Outstanding Service to American Veterans. The award will be presented in early 2006. Details will be announced in late 2005 or early 2006. Audio of the press conference making the announcement is available at: <http://www.va.gov/opa/feature/radio.htm>.

BRAIN CANCER LINK TO SARIN

The VA Under Secretary for Health has sent a letter dated 15 SEP 05 to VA clinicians who examine and provide care to veterans who may have been exposed to low levels of chemical warfare nerve

agents including sarin during March 1991 weapons demolitions at Khamisiyah, Iraq. The letter provides guidance to VA personnel on how to handle those who are concerned over their exposure and is intended to assist VA health care staff in providing care to these veterans.

In summary that guidance is:

1. There are no tests available today that can confirm exposure to these agents years or decades in the past. Therefore, medical care should focus upon the current health of the veteran, e.g., taking a thorough military and medical history, along with a basic medical examination that includes appropriate laboratory tests and specialty consultations if warranted relating to the veteran's complaints and medical findings.
2. Systematic congressionally-mandated reviews of relevant literature on sarin health effects by the National Academies of Science Institute of Medicine have not identified any specific illness as connected to sub-clinical exposure to chemical warfare nerve agents including sarin.
3. Although possible exposure to low levels of sarin at Khamisiyah in 1991 probably has minimal clinical significance today, VA health care providers need to be prepared to address the concerns of veterans and their families that may result from hearing about the new study either from the media or from DOD's letter-writing campaign. In particular, even if the finding of increased brain cancer risk among Khamisiyah veterans can be confirmed, the actual risk of brain cancer among veterans of the 1991 Gulf War is very small. Additional general information about the risks from exposure to sarin and other hazardous agents associated with the 1991 Gulf War is available at www.va.gov/EnvironAgents, and in the VA Veterans Health Initiative Independent Study Guide "Health Effects from Chemical, Biological, and Radiological Weapons," available at www.va.gov/VHI.
4. Veterans need to be informed that seeking care for conditions possibly related to exposure to chemical warfare agents does not constitute a claim for compensation. NOTE: Veterans wishing to file a compensation claim need to be referred to a Veterans Benefits Counselor, or be advised to

contact the appropriate VA Regional Office at 1-800-827-1000.

Concerns about possible health problems from low-level sarin exposure became an issue for 1991 Gulf War veterans following revelation that some Iraqi munitions destroyed by U.S. forces at Khamisiyah contained this agent. In 1997 and 2000, DOD sponsored modeling of potential chemical warfare agent exposure for Gulf War veterans resulting from U.S. demolition of Iraqi chemical weapons at Khamisiyah in March 1991. They concluded that no Gulf War veterans experienced acute exposure; however, about 100,000 veterans could have been exposed to "very low level" (sub-clinical) sarin exposures so small that they would have caused no immediate or obvious poisoning. This is consistent with DOD's observation that throughout this period there were no reports of chemical warfare agent detections, or of any service members experiencing symptoms consistent with acute chemical warfare agent exposure. (VA Under Secretary Information Letter, 15 SEP 05)

CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION TO DELAWARE VETERANS

In January 1946, Walter W. Bacon, then elected Governor, authorized a state award to those who served in World War II. To honor this commitment to Delaware Veterans, Governor Ruth Ann Minner has announced that the State of Delaware will provide a "Certificate of Appreciation" to all Delaware residents who shall have served honorably in the Armed Forces of the United States during time of peace, conflict or war. To request a "Certificate of Appreciation" the veteran/spouse or next of kin must submit the enclosed application (see page 11) along with a copy of a Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty, (DD Form 214). DO NOT SEND ORIGINAL.

COMBAT VETERANS COUNSELING SERVICES AVAILABLE IN KENT & SUSSEX COUNTY

Angela Hoag, MSW, LCSW, Clinical Social Worker is presently conducting a *War Veteran's*

Support Group every Thursday afternoon at 2:00 PM. This group is for combat veterans struggling with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD).

Ms. Hoag also facilitates a **Significant Other Support Group** every Friday morning at 9:00 AM for wives, significant others, and family members of a veteran diagnosed with PTSD. This group is a Psycho-Educational program to assist family members in understanding the symptoms of PTSD, and teaches effective coping techniques.

Ms. Hoag also facilitates a **Military Sexual Trauma Group** every Friday morning at 11:00 AM for female veterans who have experienced military sexual trauma during their active duty service. All groups are held at the Dover Vet Center Outreach Office located at the Commission of Veteran's Affairs Office, 802 Silver Lake Blvd., Suite 100, Dover, DE 19904. Similar services are held at the Vet Center Outreach Office in Georgetown, Sussex County, and the Vet Center in Elsmere, Wilmington, DE. For additional information or to request individual therapy, please contact Ms. Hoag, MSW, LCSW, at (302) 739-2792 x. 1003 or (800) 344-9900 x. 1003.

PTSD GROUP FORMING

Joan Spencer, Counselor, located at The Vet Center, on the grounds of the Wilmington VA Medical Center, is interested in forming a Post Traumatic Stress Disorder Group in response to Military Sexual Trauma in support of women veterans. All Women Veterans that are interested in being part of this support group please contact the Vet Center by calling Joan Spencer at 302-994-1660.

WOMEN VETERANS ISSUE GROUP

The group will meet the second Wednesday of each month, starting March 9th, 2005 from 9:30-10:30 am. RSVP or for questions call Kathy Oldham 992-2511 ext 4812.

COMMISSION MEETINGS

The Delaware Commission of Veterans Affairs meets the fourth Tuesday of each month, 11:00 AM,

802 Silver Lake Blvd, Suite 100, Dover, DE. The meeting schedule varies for June and December of each year. These meetings are open to the public. Any individual requiring special accommodations, shall contact this office one week prior to the meeting date. If you would like to attend, please call 1-800-344-9900 (in State) or (302) 739-2792.

MOBILE VETERANS SERVICE CENTER

Ms. White will be providing services for veterans from the mobile Service Center at the following locations:

NOV 01	Seaford Service Center
NOV 02	Georgetown Service Center
NOV 08	Laurel Town Hall
NOV 09	Georgetown Service Center
NOV 15	Bridgeville Town Hall
NOV 16	Ocean View Town Hall
NOV 29	Bethany Beach Town Hall
DEC 06	Seaford Service Center
DEC 07	Georgetown Senior Center
DEC 13	Laurel Town Hall
DEC 14	Georgetown Service Center
DEC 21	Bethany Beach Town Hall

For more information, contact Ms. White at the Pyle State Service Center, (302) 732-9560.

VETERAN SERVICE OFFICERS

Delaware Commission of Veterans Affairs

(Kent County) – Ms. Melanie E. Bronov - Dover office - may be reached Monday –Friday, 9:00 AM - 4:30 PM, (302) 739-2792 or (800) 344-9900 (in State). Please call for an appointment.

(Sussex County) - Ms. Laurie A. White - Pyle State Service Center located in Roxanna, DE, may be reached Monday-Friday, 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM, (302) 732-9560. Please call for an appointment.

American Legion

Robert McBride, Dept. Service Officer, (302) 633-5323, will visit the following posts between 9:00 AM and 1:00 PM on the following dates:

NOV 04	Oak Orchard/Riverdale,	945-1673
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	Post 28 (8:00-12:00)	
NOV 18	Walter L Fox, Post 2	674-3922
NOV 25	Laurel Post #19	875-9948
DEC 02	Oak Orchard/Riverdale,	945-1673
	Post 28 (8:00-12:00)	
DEC 09	Walter L Fox, Post 2	674-3922
DEC 16	Laurel Post #19	875-9948
DEC 30	David Harrison, Post 14	653-1711

Paralyzed Veterans of America (DE/MD PVA)

Darrell Johnson, Sr., National Service Officer, VA Regional Office, 1601 Kirkwood Hwy, Room 26, Wilmington, DE 19805, (302) 633-5325 or (302) 633-5392. Mr. Johnson will make home visits upon request for vets who do not have transportation to the VA. He will be in the Oak Orchard area the 1st Tuesday, Dover the 2nd Tuesday, Frederica the 3rd Tuesday and at the Home of the Brave on the 4th Tuesday of each month. In addition to our service officer at the Wilmington VA Regional Office, we also have a representative, David Timberman, National Liaison Service Officer, at the Home of the Brave on the 2nd & 4th Tuesday from 10:00 AM until 2:00 PM. The Home of the Brave is located at 6632 Sharps Rd, Milford, DE (302) 424-1681 or 1682.

Disabled American Veterans (DAV)

Paul Lardizzone, Dept. Service Officer (DAV).
 Every Tuesday: DAV Headquarters Building
 & Wednesday 183 South Street
 (Kent) 8:00-12:00 Camden, DE 19934
 (302) 697-9061
 Every Thursday: Department of Labor
 (Sussex) 8:00-12:00 Div. of Emp & Trng
 (302) 856-5230 600 N. DuPont Hwy.
 Georgetown, DE 19947

Military Order of the Purple Heart (MOPH)

Richard Magner, National Service Officer, VA Regional Office, 1601 Kirkwood Hwy, Wilmington, DE 19805, (302) 633-5508.

Vietnam Veterans of America (VVA)

Terry Baker, National Service Officer, VA Regional Office, 1601 Kirkwood Hwy, Wilmington, DE 19805, (302) 633-5357

Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW)

James Withrow, Dept. Service Officer, VA Regional Office, 1601 Kirkwood Hwy, Room 21, Wilmington, DE 19805, (800) 461-8262 ext. 5326 or (302) 633-5326.

1ST Thursday

Delaware DOL	(633-5326)	8:00-11:00 AM
Milford VFW	(422-4412)	1:30-4:00 PM

2nd Thursday

Delaware DOL	(633-5326)	8:00-11:00 AM
Milton VFW	(684-4975)	1:30-4:00 PM

3rd Thursday

Delaware DOL	(633-5326)	8:00-11:00 AM
Rehoboth VFW	(227-3469)	1:30-4:00 PM

4th Thursday

Delaware DOL	(633-5326)	8:00-11:00 AM
Seaford VFW	(629-3092)	1:30-4:00 PM

5th Thursday

Delaware DOL	(633-5326)	8:00-11:00 AM
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NOTE: All persons interested in Outreach Services should first call our office so that some advance information may be obtained to accelerate the application process. Kent & Sussex County residents may call 1-800-461-8262 ext 5326. New Castle County residents may call 633-5326.

NOTE: persons desiring assistance at the Thursday-downstate locations should be at the Delaware DOL no later than 9:00 AM or at the afternoon locations by 2:00 PM. The VFW provides services to veterans and their dependents without respect to veteran service organization affiliation; membership in the VFW is NOT required for service.

VETERANS ORGANIZATIONS POC

Air Force Sergeants Association

Tony Lee.....(302) 698-5144

American Ex-Prisoners Of War

Howard Melson.....(302) 539-1808

American Legion

Ed Phillips Jr.....(302) 628-5221

AMVETS

Loyd Harris.....(302) 945-0406

DE/MD Paralyzed Veterans of America

Wayne Carter.....(302) 368-4898

Disabled American Veterans

Paul Lardizzone.....(302) 697-9061

Jewish War Veterans

Barry Newstadt.....(302) 475-2820

Korean War Veterans Association

Dave Gillan.....(302) 737-2242

Military Order of the Purple Heart

Bill Carroll.....(302) 655-3820

Military Order of the World Wars

COL (Ret) Eugene A. Hebert.....(302) 335-0110

E-Mail gene@hebert.net

The Reserve Officers Association

CWO John V. Hawkins, Sr. (Ret)...(302) 328-8115

U.S. Navy Veterans Association

Jim Anderson.....(302) 295-7051

Veterans of Foreign Wars

Paul Phillips Jr.....(302) 656-5022

Vietnam Veterans of America

Tom Daws.....(302) 738-8875

WAVES Nat'l

Ruth Harden.....(302) 998-1373

DELAWARE VETERANS MEMORIAL CEMETERY

New Castle Co. Section (Bear, DE).....834-8046

Sussex Co. Section (Georgetown, DE).....934-5653

VETERANS ADMINISTRATION

Claims, Benefits, Veterans Services

(Regional Office).....1-800-827-1000

VA Hospital Scheduling.....1-800-461-8262

.....302-994-2511

Veterans Outreach Center

(New Castle County).....302-633-5360

(Kent and Sussex Counties).....302-422-8011

Women's Veteran Program Manager

(Regina A. Lane, RN).....(302) 633-5580

EMPLOYMENT SERVICES

Al Barclift (Wilmington).....302-761-8093
 Michael Companion (Wilmington).....302-761-8096
 Ron Bythwood (Newark).....302-453-5473
 Mike Wolanski (Newark).....302-453-5350
 Steve Flaherty (Dover).....302-739-5473
 Charley Roberson (Dover).....302-739-5473
 Norris Townsend (Georgetown).....302-856-5230
 Cliff Rumph (Georgetown).....302-856-5230

VETERANS UPWARD BOUND PROGRAM

Sandria D. Johnson (USAF-Ret.) Counselor /
 Associate Director, Delaware State University,
 1200 N DuPont Hwy, Dover DE 19901, (302) 857-
 6135. E-mail sjohnson@desu.edu.

RETIREE ACTIVITIES

Retired Activities Office

Lt. Col Ken Smith, (USAF RET), Bldg 520, Room
 105, Dover AFB, DE 19902, (302) 677-4612.

Retired Navy Activities Affairs Office

Leon Stajkowski, Naval & Marine Corps Reserve
 Center, 3920 Kirkwood Hwy, Wilmington, DE
 19808, (302) 998-5194.

COMMISSION OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

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 344-9900.

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CITY_____ **STATE**_____ **ZIP**_____

MAIL TO: **DELAWARE COMMISSION OF VETERANS AFFAIRS**
802 SILVER LAKE BLVD, SUITE 100
DOVER, DE 19904

**DELAWARE COMMISSION OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
APPLICATION FOR CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION**

Veterans Name _____
First Middle Last

Address _____
Street City State Zip

Phone: Home _____ **Work** _____

Date Entered Service _____ **Date Separated** _____ **Branch of Service** _____

Date of Birth _____ **Type of Discharge** _____ **Highest Rank Achieved** _____

(Only required if requesting rank on certificate)

Is Veteran Deceased Yes or No (please circle one)

LEGAL RESIDENT OF THE STATE OF DELAWARE

To meet the legal residency requirement (in addition to honorable military service) the veteran must have been:

- a. A legal resident of Delaware when he or she entered the Armed Forces of the United States; or
- b. A legal resident of Delaware at time of death

Please submit this application and a copy of Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty, (DD-214) to:

Delaware Commission of Veterans Affairs
Robbins Building
802 Silver Lake Blvd, Suite 100
Dover, DE 19904
Phone: (302) 739-2792 or 1-800-344-9900 (in State only)

Signature of Veteran/spouse or next of kin _____ **Date** _____

Relationship if not veteran _____

Provide alternate address if different from above _____

NOTE: Please anticipate 4 to 6 weeks in receiving your Certificate

TO BE COMPLETED BY DCVA

___ **Approved** ___ **Pending** ___ **Disapproved**

Name _____ **Date** _____

Title _____

DCVA FORM 20-01-95-04-01

STATE OF DELAWARE

"Serving Delaware's Veterans"

**Delaware Commission of Veterans Affairs
Robbins Building
802 Silver Lake Blvd, Suite 100
Dover, Delaware 19904**

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